

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 03550 051303Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 PM-07 DRC-01 RSC-01 SPC-03

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /075 W

----- 037987

R 051235Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5650

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 3550

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, MCAP, UY

SUBJ: PURCHASE BY URUGUAY OF EXCESS RAILROAD EQUIPMENT

REF: (A) USMILGP MESSAGE 041455Z DEC 73; B) STATE 230024

C) MONTEVIDEO 3451

FOR ORTIZ, ARA/APU, FROM AMBASSADOR

1. REF (A) FROM COMMANDER USMILGP SENT TO DEPARTMENT FOR INFORMATION REPORTS FORTHCOMING TRIP BEGINNING DECEMBER 10 BY URUGUAYAN OFFICIALS OF ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONAL RAILWAYS (AFE) TO INSPECT EXCESS RAIL EQUIPMENT AT CHARLESTON ARMY DEPOT. TRIP REPRESENTS CULMINATION, AT LEAST AT THIS STAGE, OF PROCESS BEGUN IN MAY 1973 WHEN AFE ASKED MILGROUP'S ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING AND OBTAINING SUCH EXCESS EQUIPMENT COMPOSED OF ROLLING STOCK, ENGINES AND CRANE.

2. IMPROVEMENT OF NATIONAL RAILWAY SYSTEM REPRESENTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT OF HIGH NATIONAL PRIORITY AND WAS DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL LEADERS HELD AT LA NIRVANA IN OCTOBER. WE HAVE ASSURANCES THAT AFE HAS EARMARKED FUNDS FOR PURCHASE, AND UNDERSTAND THAT INSPECTION TEAM EMPOWERED PRESENT LETTER OF INTENT OF MINIMUM.

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PAGE 02 MONTEV 03550 051303Z

3. TRIP HAS AROUSED SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST HERE AND POSSIBLE

PURCHASE FROM U.S. BILLED PROMINENTLY IN PRESS. IN ADDITION, PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH AFE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INDICATE IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO POSSIBLE PURCHASE, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF FAVORABLE TERMS INVOLVED.

4. SINCE AFE AND GOVERNMENT APPEAR DETERMINED TO MODERNIZE RAILROAD AND PUT IT ON SOUND ECONOMIC FOOTING, I BELIEVE IT IS CLEARLY IN OUR INTERESTS TO CONSUMATE THE PURCHASE ASSUMING QUANTITIES, TYPES AND CONDITION MEET URUGUAYAN REQUIREMENTS. FUNDS SAVED THROUGH PURCHASE COULD BE REDIRECTED TO UPGRADING ROAD BED AND SYSTEM IN GENERAL. THIS IS A CLEAR OPPORTUNITY TO MEET A NATIONAL REQUIREMENT AT NO COST TO US. I URGE THAT YOU LEND YOUR SUPPORT AS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THE EQUIPMENT REMAINS RESERVED FOR URUGUAY UNTIL A FINAL DECISION IS MADE. WE DO NOT WISH ANOTHER EXPERIENCE LIKE THAT OF SURPLUS HOSPITALS. SIRACUSA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROCUREMENT, RAILROADS, ROLLING STOCK
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: ETRN, MCAP, MILI, UY, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005